



July 7, 2010

Mr. Cliff Ogburn, Town Manager  
Town of Nags Head  
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RE: Nags Head Beach Nourishment Project (CSE 2203-01)  
**Progress Update (Late June – Early July)**

Dear Cliff:

This letter summarizes CSE's progress on the Nags Head beach nourishment project over the past approximately two weeks.

#### **Permitting/EIS (Task 4A/4B)**

The final public notice on the FEIS was published in the Federal Register on 2 July (copy enclosed). Comments will be received through 26 July. Raleigh Bland (USACE) has been coordinating the distribution of FEIS copies with us. We prepared around 20 copies of the document. We do not anticipate any decision-changing comments at this point. Once the public notice time line runs its course, the USACE will be able to issue their permit for the project.

#### **Field Data Collection (Task 2B)**

CSE is preparing for deployment of a wave gauge/current meter array over the borrow area to obtain approximately two months of data during a similar summer dredging period. These site-specific data will be made available to prospective dredging companies who we hope will bid on the project. The data will also be used for engineering analyses.

#### **Engineering Analyses (Task 3)**

CSE has performed extensive QA/QC on historical data and has determined a defensible depth of closure (DOC) for the area. The DOC will be used to set outer boundaries for volume calculations and to compute net and annual volume changes by reach for available periods. The primary comparison will be 1994-2005 (updated from our preliminary design report, CSE 2005) and 2005-2009. Steven Traynum is preparing this analysis under my supervision.



Doug Dusini, our project engineer, has been developing the cross-shore erosion analyses with the aid of the USACE program, SBEACH, which simulates dune and profile erosion in storms. Much of the recent effort relates to wave analyses (a necessary input for the model simulations). Doug has been computing return-period storm wave heights using ten years of hourly wave data. The wave data were used to estimate the maximum monthly wave heights ( $H_{mo}$ ). Maximum monthly wave heights were used to estimate wave heights for several return periods using a Weibull distribution of the wave heights, Goda's (1988) methods for predicting wave events, and Goda's (1988) and Gumbel's (1958) approach for estimating confidence intervals; these are accepted statistical approaches. Then these results are applied to revise SBEACH runs on Nags Head beach profiles (03/2009) using a +6-foot (ft) NAVD nourishment berm crest. The results serve as a basis for checking the design volume adequacy.

Dr. Kaczowski, CSE's senior coastal engineer, has been developing the longshore sediment transport analysis using the model GENESIS. This model simulates the movement of sand along the coast and the resulting shoreline change in the presence of nourishment, coastal structures, etc. It also requires accurate wave data for input. There are several wave data sources near the project site, including the USACE Field Research Facility Lab at Duck (NC) and at least three Wave Information Study (WIS) stations. These wave data were reviewed carefully, and the most representative wave climate was chosen as the input wave parameter for the wave and shoreline change modeling studies. The wave-gauge deployment plan will be determined based on the wave analysis to verify the wave characteristics used in the model.

GENESIS was set up and calibrated for different time periods. In addition to shoreline profiles, Dr. Kaczowski also evaluated the net longshore transport rates and total volumetric erosion rates to confirm historical shoreline change patterns. Once the calibration and verification of the GENESIS model are successful, we will use this model to predict the behavior of the Nags Head shoreline in response to the proposed nourishment. We will evaluate different fill templates for Nags Head to determine the optimum nourishment plan on a reach-by-reach basis.

A "STeady State spectral WAVE" (STWAVE) model was set up and executed to transform representative offshore waves to the project site. STWAVE model results were used to provide the wave energy field for the shoreline change model.



**Other Activities**

CSE has been discussing with NCDOT the impact of the nourishment project on existing ocean outfalls. Doug Dusini (PE) is preparing a brief report on the planned nourishment profiles at each outfall.

I will be in Nags Head on 29-30 July. Philip McKee and some of our team will be deploying gauges offshore around the same time.

Please call if you have any questions about our progress.

Yours truly,

Coastal Science & Engineering (CSE)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Timothy W Kana'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Timothy W Kana PhD PG  
Project Director

Enclosure: Federal Register Public Notice

cc: D Dusini PE  
H Kaczowski PE  
S Traynum  
T Hair

Sacramento District, Regulatory Division; 1325 J Street, Room 1480, Sacramento, California 95814–2922, or via e-mail to

[Lisa.M.Gibson2@usace.army.mil](mailto:Lisa.M.Gibson2@usace.army.mil). Oral and written comments may also be submitted at the public meeting described in the **DATES** section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Lisa M. Gibson, (916) 557–5288, or via e-mail at [Lisa.M.Gibson2@usace.army.mil](mailto:Lisa.M.Gibson2@usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The South Folsom Property Owners Group, the project applicants, are seeking adoption by the City of the proposed SPA project and associated entitlements. The City and the South Folsom Property Owners Group are also seeking authorization from USACE for the placement of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The Proposed Project includes 10,210 residential units at various densities on a total of 1,477.2 acres; 362.8 acres designated for commercial and industrial use, including a regional shopping center; public/quasi-public uses; elementary, middle, and high schools on 179.3 acres; 121.7 acres of community and neighborhood parks; stormwater detention basins; 1,053.1 acres of open-space areas and open-space preserves; and major roads with landscaping. In addition, the proposed project includes the construction of several off-site infrastructure facilities, including intersection expansions to allow access to and from U.S. 50 and the SPA, an overpass of U.S. 50, two roadway connections and sewer pipelines from the SPA into El Dorado Hills, a sewer force main connection to the existing City system, a detention basin and water pipelines and facilities. The SPA contains approximately 84.94 acres of waters of the U.S. The proposed land-use plan would involve the discharge of fill material into approximately 39.50 acres of waters of the U.S., and indirect impacts to 0.29 acres of waters of the U.S. resulting from fragmentation of existing waters. In addition, the proposed land-use plan involves the preservation of approximately 44.19 acres of waters of the U.S., concentrated primarily on the Alder Creek corridor and adjacent tributaries and wetlands.

For the proposed off-site water supply/alignment for the SPA, the City is proposing off-site water facilities that would involve the permanent assignment to the City of the contractual entitlements to Central Valley Project (CVP) contract entitlement water, totaling not more than 8,000 acre-feet per year (AFY) from the Natomas

Central Mutual Water Company (NCMWC), diverting the water supply from the Sacramento River and conveying the water to the SPA. The proposed water supply would also involve the City purchasing dedicated capacity within the Freeport Regional Water Project (Freeport Project) from Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA), which would serve as the point of diversion (POD) on the Sacramento River and partial conveyance pathway for not more than 6,000 AFY purchased from NCMWC. The City proposes to add the Freeport POD to the assigned CVP water to facilitate the diversion of these supplies at the existing Freeport Project diversion. The City proposes to pump and convey the assigned NCMWC CVP water supply through the Freeport Project diversion facility and conveyance pipeline to the point where SCWA and East Bay Municipal Utility District pipelines split. The City would then construct new water supply conveyance infrastructure from the bifurcation point to the SPA within an approximately 200-foot corridor. The corridor for the proposed construction of the water line and the proposed location for water treatment plants contains approximately 50.7 acres of waters of the U.S. within the proposed water supply corridor was determined based on aerial photographs and National Wetland Inventory maps, and has not been field delineated or verified by USACE. Because the City has not yet completed project specific engineering details for the proposed off-site water supply/alignment, the exact impacts to waters of the U.S. cannot be determined. However, construction of the water supply infrastructure is expected to occur within an area of less than 100-feet in width, and, depending on which side of the corridor construction would occur, would impact an estimated 5.7 acres or 6.8 acres of waters of the U.S.

USACE invites full public participation to promote open communication and better decision-making. All persons and organizations that have an interest in the SPA are urged to participate in the NEPA process.

An electronic version of the DEIS may be viewed at the USACE, Sacramento District Web site: <http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/organizations/cespk-co/regulatory/EISs/EIS-index.html>: In addition, a hardcopy of the DEIS may also be reviewed at the following locations:

(1) City of Folsom City Hall, Community Development Department,

50 Natoma Street, Folsom, California 95630.

(2) Folsom Public Library, Georgia Murray Building, 411 Stafford Street, Folsom, California 95630.

June 23, 2010.

**Thomas C. Chapman,**

*Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.*

[FR Doc. 2010–16135 Filed 7–1–10; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3720–58–P**

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Corps of Engineers

#### **The Release of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the Town of Nags Head Proposed Beach Nourishment Project in Dare County, NC**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

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**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), Wilmington District, Regulatory Division, has been reviewing a request for Department of the Army authorization, pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, from the Town of Nags Head to dredge up to 4.6 million cubic yards of beach-quality sediment from an offshore borrow source, and deposit the material along approximately 10 miles of ocean shoreline in the Town of Nags Head.

The applicant proposes to utilize a self-contained hopper dredge during a proposed construction window from April through September to undertake the dredging operations and discharge the sand on the beach via submerged pipeline. The applicant's proposed borrow areas include sites identified as having beach quality material in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District's EIS, entitled *Final Feasibility Report and Environmental Impact Statement on Hurricane Protection and Beach Erosion Control*, dated September 2000 (USACE 2000).

**DATES:** Written comments on the Final EIS will be received until July 26, 2010.

**ADDRESSES:** Copies of comments and questions regarding the Final EIS may be addressed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District, Washington Regulatory Field Office. ATTN: File Number 200640282, 2407 W. Fifth Street, Washington, NC 27889. Copies of the Draft EIS can be reviewed on the Wilmington District Regulatory homepage at, <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wetlands/>

*regtour.htm*, or contact Ms. Sharon Barnett, at (910) 251-4555, to receive written or CD copies of the Final EIS.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions about the proposed action and FEIS can be directed to Mr. Raleigh Bland, Project Manager, Regulatory Division, telephone: (910) 251-4564.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

1. *Project Description.* The project site is located off NC Highway 12, adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean, in the Town of Nags Head, Dare County, NC. The proposed project totals approximately 10 miles of ocean shoreline beginning approximately 1 mile from the town's northern limit and extending south to the town line adjacent to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore. The proposed borrow area is located in the Atlantic Ocean approximately 2-3 miles offshore of the project site. The Town of Nags Head encompasses approximately 11 miles of ocean shoreline on a barrier island located at the northern end of North Carolina's Outer Banks. The width of the berm of the island's dune system varies considerably with location along the town's beach and with the season. Along most of the project area, the winter berm is non-existent due to continuing erosion processes. Dune habitat is currently decreasing due to excessive erosion of the base or toe of the dunes by waves that travel unimpeded over eroded wet beach to directly impact dunes. The Town of Nags Head proposes to excavate 4.6 million cubic yards of beach-quality sediment from an offshore borrow source, and deposit the material along approximately 10 miles of ocean shoreline owned by the Town of Nags Head.

2. *Proposed Action.* The purpose of the proposed action is to nourish the Town of Nags Head's ocean shoreline to restore a protective beach, replace sand lost during the period of delay in the implementation of the federal *Dare County Hurricane Protection and Beach Erosion Control Project* (USACE 2000), and to help preserve property values and the tax base of Dare County.

The proposed borrow area includes portions of offshore areas identified by the Corps of Engineers in the 2000 Federal Dare County Project. The anticipated optimal equipment for excavations will include ocean-certified, self-contained hopper dredges. Such equipment typically excavates shallow trenches (approximately 2-3 foot sections) in each pass (leaving narrow undisturbed areas at the margin of each cut), then travels to a buoyed pipeline anchored close to shore. Discharge to the beach is via submerged pipeline

across the surf zone, then by way of shore-based pipe positioned along the dry beach. Only a small area of the Corps borrow area will be required to provide up to 4.6 million cubic yards of beach quality material. The applicant is coordinating the specific area for use in the proposed project with the Corps with the following understanding: (1) The final borrow area required for the emergency beach nourishment project can be limited to the equivalent of a 0.9 square-mile (approximately 575 acres) area, (2) the borrow area used will be contiguous rather than a series of small impact areas, (3) once used, the borrow area will no longer be available for use, consistent with the Dare County Project, and (4) the borrow area will be delineated so as to avoid ongoing biological monitoring stations established by the Corps in connection with the Dare County Project. The project will be built in approximate 1-2 mile sections, optimizing the disposition of pipeline. Sections will be pumped into place with the aid of temporary dikes pushed up by bulldozers in the surf zone. Daily operations will impact approximately 500-1,000 linear feet of shoreline as work progresses in either direction from the submerged pipeline. Upon completion of a section, the submerged pipe and beach-building equipment will be shifted to the next section. As construction progresses, sections will be graded to final contours, dressed to eliminate low areas, and opened for use by the public. Support equipment will be shifted out of completed sections as soon as practicable, so that construction activities in a particular reach will not disrupt normal beach use for only a month or so at any locality. The finished sections will be allowed to adjust to natural processes for several months. The final process will include the placement of dune fencing and/or dune plantings as needed or required.

4. *Alternatives.* An extensive alternatives analysis was performed and reviewed for this project. This included the evaluation of a no action alternative; a retreat and relocate alternative; and the preferred alternative. Many alternatives were identified and evaluated through the scoping process, and further detailed descriptions of all alternatives is disclosed in Section 5.0 of the Final EIS.

5. *Scoping Process.* A public scoping meeting was held on April 28, 2009 and public and agency comments were solicited for input in the preparation of the Draft and Final EIS. The scoping meeting was well attended by the public, as well as representatives from

local, state, and federal governmental agencies.

The COE coordinated closely with the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the National Marine Fisheries Service in the development of the Final EIS to ensure the process complies with State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requirements, as well as the NEPA requirements. The Final EIS has been designed to consolidate both NEPA and SEPA processes. The State of North Carolina has issued a 401 Water Quality Certification Permit and a Coastal Zone Consistency Determination in the form of a Coastal Area Management Act Permit.

Dated: June 17, 2010.

**Jefferson M. Ryscavage,**

*Colonel, U.S. Army, District Commander.*

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**BILLING CODE 3720-58-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Department of the Army**

**Corps of Engineers**

[ID SPK-2009-00511]

**Notice of Availability of Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Sunridge Properties in the Sunridge Specific Plan Area, in Rancho Cordova, Sacramento County, CA**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of Availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, (Corps) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze programmatically the direct, indirect and cumulative effects associated with six residential development projects in the Sunridge Specific Plan area in Rancho Cordova, Sacramento County, CA.

The purpose of the Draft EIS is to provide decision-makers and the public with information pertaining to the Proposed Action and alternatives, and to disclose environmental impacts and identify mitigation measures to reduce impacts. The Proposed Action is the construction of the six projects (collectively, the "Sunridge Properties") which would require the filling of approximately 29.7 acres of waters of the United States, including wetlands. The EIS is being prepared as part of ongoing litigation concerning Department of the Army permits issued